OUT TO 'RECTIFY' LOW VIEWERSHIP

WATCH ADEN YOUNG ON SUNDANCE NOW! PAGE 14

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Wednesday, June 25, 2014 **www.metro.us | t: MetroNewYork | f: MetroNewYork**

Style

Miranda Kerr rocks florals, so should you

PAGE 19

Can you kick it? A 16-year-old has opened the world's first sneaker pawnshop in Harlem. **Shoe blazer.** People can bring in their vintage shoes and sell them, some going for as much as $1,400. PAGE 02

IT'S GOTTA BE THE SHOES

Chase "Sneakers" Reed, 16, has opened Sneaker Pawn in Harlem where people can sell their mint-condition sneakers. / MILES DIXON, METRO

It smells like you just got a text

PAGE 10

New exhibit has masters in action

PAGE 13

West Eighth Street a cool area now?

PAGE 15

1 NEWS

Today's tweet

"Driving through brooklyn this morning felt like i was playing Cruis'n Usa sitting in the driving console like a big girl."

@levenRambin

Top 3

What's trending online at Metro.us

1 'PHOTOS: Benedict Cumberbatch, Johnny Depp go Irish in Boston'

2 'VIDEO: Watch random people slap each other in the face'

3 'KFC hoax: Restaurant reportedly never asked disfigured child to leave'

Teen turns love of kicks into sneaker pawnshop

Heart and sole. A Harlem teenager has created the world's first sneakers-only pawnshop.

Chase "Sneakers" Reed, 16, holds up the most expensive shoes in his store — the LeBron Crown Jewels. / MILES DIXON, METRO

Ever since Spikes Lee's Mars Blackmon said Michael Jordan's shoes were the reason he dominated on the basketball court in Nike ads, the world's passion for sneakers has transformed into obsession. And now, one New York City teenager is cashing in on our love of kicks.

Chase "Sneakers" Reed, 16, has tapped into the profitable potential of shoe culture by opening the world's first sneakers-only pawnshop in Harlem. Sneaker Pawn allows people to sell their high-end collectible shoes for cash.

The most expensive pair of shoes, a pair of LeBron Crown Jewels, goes for $1,400.

"I used to ask my father for money for sneakers, and he would ask me for something in return," Reed said. "I was basically pawning my old sneakers to my father, and it started to click after a while." His $30,000 shoe collection was what helped bankroll the one of a kind store.

Troy Reed, Chase's dad, said that his son has always loved sneakers and fashion. "So I sat him down one day and told him that it was time to turn his passion into money," his father said.

The two said the shop has quickly become a neighborhood spot for teens to come and hang out after basketball practice or school.

"We're having a good time," said Reed, in between phone calls and haggling with customers.

Reed said that there are a variety of reasons that people want to pawn their shoes.

"Teenagers came in to pawn their sneakers for prom," he said. "We've had people come in who don't know what to do with a dead relative's sneaker collection, but need money for the funeral."

Entering just his junior year of high school at Fredrick Douglass Academy this fall, Reed has already made one dream come true.

He hopes he can keep that trend going when high school is over.

"I want to go to Howard University or UCLA. I love the Cali lifestyle," he said.

JOSEPH SOUZA
@MetroNewYork
letters@metro.us

Visit **Metro.us** to read the full story and to see more photos.

Wallet whopper

$1.4K

The cost of a pair of mint-condition Lebron Crown Jewels at Sneaker Pawn.

Quoted

"We've had people come in who don't know what to do with a dead relative's sneaker collection, but need money for the funeral."

Reed

Sneaker Pawn

How the pawnshop system works

Sneaker Pawn works like any pawnshop. They tell you how much the shoes are worth, give the cash to you on loan and then the customer has 30 days to repay them.

The shoes must be mint condition or lightly used.

The most coveted are the Crown Jewels or vintage Air Jordans. Sneaker Pawn also refurbishes and customizes sneakers.

Rangel, Espaillat face off in primary

Rep. Charles Rangel gives the thumbs up before voting Tuesday. / GETTY IMAGES

History repeated itself as the race between Rep. Charlie Rangel and state Sen. Adriano Espaillat was still too close to call as of press time. Even as the Lion of Lenox tries to roar into another term in Congress, Espaillat held his own again in his race against the 22-term incumbent.

"Nothing against the congressman," Espaillat said on Tuesday, "but he's part of the past. And we are part of the future."

The two faced off in 2012, when Rangel, 84, barely eked out a win against the man who would be the first Dominican-born U.S. House representative.

This year's rematch was framed as one representing the racial and ethnic shifts in the district, which includes Harlem, Washington Heights, Inwood and parts of the South Bronx.

In 2012, Espaillat fought for a vote recount. He dropped the challenge when the Board of Elections' final count showed Rangel with a 1,032-vote lead. CHESTER JESUS SORIA

Racial divide

A recent Siena poll showed voters were divided between racial lines — Espaillat had a 24-point advantage with Latinos. Rangel held a 70-point advantage among black voters.

- Unlike 2012, however, Rangel faced Espaillat with a dwindling amount of support from city's political establishment.

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Under investigation

Man dead, two recovering after stabbing in Crown Heights

A fight in Brooklyn turned deadly late Monday and ended with one man dead and two others with stab wounds.

Authorities said a verbal spat turned into a brawl at Buffalo and East New York avenues in Crown Heights.

Officers arrived at 11:31 p.m. to find three male victims — all stabbed by an as-of-yet-unidentified attacker.

One unnamed 18-year-old suffered a stab wound to his chest. He succumbed to his injuries.

A second victim, a 17-year-old, was stabbed in his arm. The third victim, age 21, was stabbed in the leg.

Police said the investigation is ongoing. **CHESTER JESUS SORIA**

Classic. Adams proclaims 'Do the Right Thing' Day in Brooklyn

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams has announced that Saturday will officially be "Do the Right Thing" Day in Brooklyn. The award-winning film turns 25 on Sunday.

Filmmaker Spike Lee joined other city officials as Adams announced that a block party will take place on Saturday from noon to 6 p.m. The event will celebrate the legacy of the film and its impact on Brooklyn history.

"Do the Right Thing" was released 25 years ago.
GETTY IMAGES

The location, on Stuyvesant Avenue between Lexington and Quincy avenues, was the backdrop for the 1989 film.

This event is a partnership between Lee's Fort Greene-based production company, 40 Acres and a Mule Filmworks, and Beats Music, in collaboration with the Stuyvesant Co-Op Block Association, and will feature performances by various DJs, with Lee acting as MC. **JOSEPH SOUZA**

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MTA. Group to help improve, modernize the transit system

A new advisory commission is tasked with helping to enhance and modernize the region's transit system, the MTA announced Tuesday.

The Transportation Reinvention Commission will recommend how the MTA can better respond to challenges like increasing ridership, shifting demographics and extreme weather from climate change.

Two co-chairs will oversee 22 commission members. Some praised the formation of the group, particularly as mass transit use soars, increasing ridership in new parts of the region.

Brooklyn saw the largest percent increase in average weekday subway ridership last year, when the MTA hit a decades-high of 1.7 billion annual riders.

"There's a lot that's in motion and it's really to the MTA's credit that they're thinking ahead," said commission member Gene Russianoff, staff attorney at the Straphangers Campaign.

The MTA is looking to modernize. / GETTY IMAGES

Upcoming meetings

The group will hold public hearings and then provide a report before the MTA submits its five-year capital plan, due Oct. 1.

- The commission's first meeting is Wednesday.

Superstorm Sandy, which caused some subway tunnels to flood, exposed the transit system's vulnerabilities, said member and Tri-State Transportation Campaign executive director Veronica Vanterpool.

"We need to start planning transit projects with a keen understanding of what those vulnerabilities are," she said. **ANNA SANDERS**

Barbecue

World's largest meat smoker and grill rolls into NYC

The "Rib Whisperer" rolled into Union Square on Tuesday morning, bringing with him the world's-largest smoker and grill.

The 55-foot-long Ultimate Smoker and Grill is the baby of Trace Arnold, also known as the Rib Whisperer, a moniker his wife gave him years ago. He owns a chain of barbecue restaurants in Texas.

Arnold created the truck four years ago, complete with a prep kitchen, six smoking ovens and a wood-fired grill that cooks 1,000 hot dogs, 500 burgers or 200 16-ounce steaks at once.

Trace Arnold / SAMAR KHURSHID

"If you've got it good, make it great," he said. "If you've got it great, make it outrageous."

The History Channel has hired him for the past three years to go around the country, cooking barbecue and promoting their shows such as "Top Gear," "Swamp People," and "American Pickers." **SAMAR KHURSHID**

Crowning prom royalty

The newest king and queen of the prom will be crowned on Wednesday at Who's Your Doggy in Fort Greene at their annual Puppy Prom. The pet store has posted pictures of the hopeful pooch contestants on its Facebook page and the winners will be determined by the number of likes. Leopold Bloom, pictured above, is currently in the lead for prom king with more than 4,000 likes. / WHO'S YOUR DOGGY

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Bipartisan report. Climate change will cost US hundreds of billions

Annual property losses from hurricanes and other coastal storms of $35 billion; a decline in crop yields of 14 percent, costing farmers tens of billions of dollars; heat wave-driven demand for electricity costing utility customers up to $12 billion per year.

These are among the economic costs that climate change is expected to exact in the United States over the next 25 years, according to a bipartisan report. And that's just for starters: The price tag could soar to hundreds of billions by 2100.

Commissioned by a group chaired by Michael Bloomberg, former Secretary of the Treasury Henry Paulson, and environmentalist and financier Tom Steyer, the analysis "is the most detailed ever of the potential economic effects of climate change on the U.S.," said climatologist Michael Oppenheimer of Princeton University.

REUTERS

See more at
www.metro.us
Under water
$106B
By mid-century, $66 billion to $106 billion worth of coastal property will likely be below sea level.

There is a 5 percent chance that by 2100, losses will reach $700 billion, with average annual losses from rising oceans of $42 billion to $108 billion along the Eastern Seaboard and Gulf of Mexico. / GETTY IMAGES

Steps taken

The report lands three weeks after President Obama ordered regulators to take steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including requiring power plants to cut carbon dioxide emissions to 30 percent below 2005 levels by 2030.

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Murdoch protegee

Brooks cleared in phone hacking, bribing case

Rebekah Brooks, the former boss of Rupert Murdoch's British newspaper arm the News of the World, was acquitted on Tuesday of orchestrating a campaign to hack into phones and bribe officials in a case that has shaken the British political establishment.

A jury at London's Old Bailey court cleared Brooks unanimously but found Andy Coulson — her former lover and Prime Minister David Cameron's ex-media chief — guilty of conspiring to intercept messages to break news about royalty, celebrities and victims of crime. REUTERS

BROOKS
GETTY IMAGES

Scandal

Second bridge probe linked to NJ Gov. Christie is underway

A second bridge investigation linked to New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie is underway, this one focusing on possible securities law violations involving the Pulaski Skyway bridge,

The New York Times reported on Tuesday.

According to the Times, officials are probing whether bondholders were intentionally deceived by a $1.8 billion pact to repair the Skyway, which connects Newark and Jersey City. REUTERS

Stand with Baghdad.
Kerry urges Kurds to save Iraq from collapse

A Kurd aims his weapon as he holds a position on a roof. / GETTY IMAGES

Secretary of State John Kerry urged leaders of Iraq's autonomous Kurdish region on Tuesday to stand with Baghdad in the face of a Sunni insurgent onslaught that threatens to dismember the country.

Security forces fought Sunni armed factions for control of the country's biggest oil refinery on Tuesday and militants launched an attack on one of its largest air bases less than 60 miles from the capital.

The figure includes unarmed government troops machine-gunned in mass graves by insurgents, as well as several reported incidents of prisoners killed in their cells by retreating government forces. REUTERS

Fatalities

1K

More than 1,000 people, mainly civilians, have been killed in less than three weeks, the United Nations said on Tuesday, calling the figure "very much a minimum."

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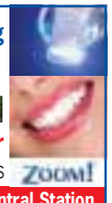

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OMG! Smelling is believing: New app lets you smell text messages

Visit us online at **Metro.us/omg** for more interviews.

Just imagine a day when you could wake up and smell the coffee without the hassle of making it. That day could be closer than you think with the advent of the "oPhone," currently in the funding stage on Indiegogo. The technology, developed by Harvard University professor David Edwards, uses an iPhone app called oSnap (available to download now). The app with an Instagram-style camera captures the image, which is then tagged with a corresponding smell and received through the oPhone. Edwards and his team sent the first champagne and passion fruit macaroon-scented message from Paris to New York earlier this month. The expert explains to Metro why he thinks a new era of messaging, entertainment and marketing is on the horizon.

Isn't communicating through smell a gimmick?

We ... communicate intensely through smells. We wouldn't be here today if we didn't have the ability to sense the world around us. That's one of the reasons that we launched the oPhone in the Museum of Natural History in New York.

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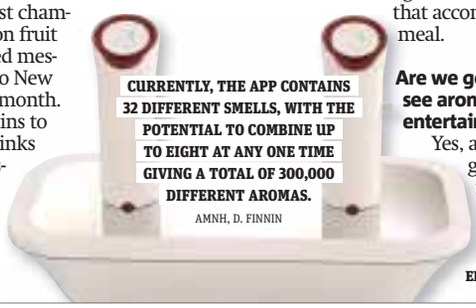
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Are we going to see aromas used in entertainment?

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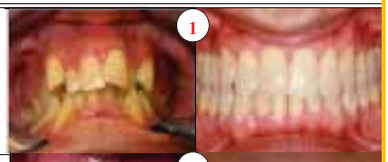
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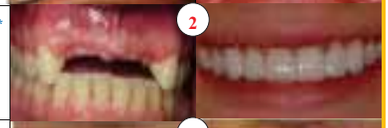
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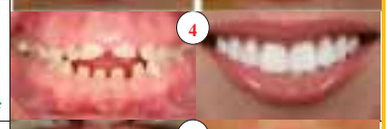
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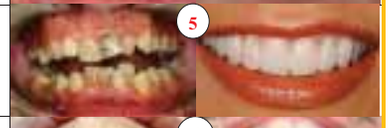
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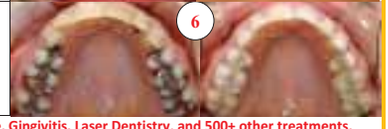
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Kremlin says. Putin renounces right to send troops to Ukraine

President Vladimir Putin asked Russia's upper house on Tuesday to revoke the right it had granted him to order a military intervention in Ukraine in defense of Russian-speakers there.

Minutes before he spoke, Kiev said pro-Russian rebels in east Ukraine had shot down a military helicopter, most likely killing all nine onboard. It was the most serious breach of a temporary cease-fire agreed in talks between government and rebels less than 24 hours earlier.

Putin's move received a cautious welcome in the West as a sign Moscow was ready to help engineer a settlement in Ukraine's largely Russian-speaking east.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko called it a "first practical step" following Putin's statement of support last weekend for Poroshenko's peace plan for eastern Ukraine.

But later he told security chiefs to "open fire without hesitation" if government forces came under attack, and "did not rule out bringing the cease-fire regime to an early end" if rebels continued to breach it, his press service said.

Putin himself said he now expected Ukraine to begin talks on guaranteeing the rights of its Russian-speaking minority, which Russia would continue to defend. **REUTERS**

Putin / GETTY IMAGES

Quoted

"It is not enough to announce a cease-fire. ... A substantive discussion of the essence of the problems is essential."

Putin told reporters

Call of the wild

Dog found after missing for two years in forest

A Golden Retriever that got separated from its owners during a camping trip in California's Tahoe National Forest was reunited with its family and doing well after apparently surviving on its own for nearly two years in the wilderness, the family said.

Erin and Nathan Braun were on a camping trip in October 2012 when the dog, named Murphy, went missing, according to the Los Angeles Times. Twenty months later, a camper at the French Meadows Reservoir, not more than five miles from where the Brauns lost Murphy, spotted the pet and alerted the family, according to a Facebook post written by the couple.

After several unsuccessful days of trying to track the dog down, the Brauns decided to leave her bed and several items of their own clothing with the camper, hoping Murphy would pick up their scent and return to the area.

It worked, and a week later the Brauns were notified that the camper had coaxed Murphy onto a leash after finding her sleeping on the clothing left for her. **REUTERS**

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The heat is on

Google's Nest opens doors to third-party apps

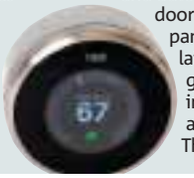
Nest, the Google Inc.-owned maker of smart thermostats and other home automation products, will allow other companies to create apps that communicate with its devices.

The program marks the first time Nest has allowed third-party companies to access its gadgets, potentially opening the door to the rich selection of apps and services that have made smartphones popular.

More than 5,000 developers have already expressed interest in developing apps for Nest products, according to the company.

Nest said that it was working with companies including washer-dryer maker Whirlpool Corp. and automatic garage door opener company Chamberlain. Closing a garage door, for instance, can alert the Nest Thermostat that the user is away from home and to turn off the heat. LED lightbulbs from Lifx can be set to flash red if a Nest smoke detector senses smoke in the house.

Google acquired Nest for $3.2 billion in January, underscoring the Web search company's efforts to extend its reach into a broad field of Internet-connected devices. **REUTERS**



Kristen Bell is preggers

Kristen Bell is pregnant once again. The "Frozen" star's rep confirms that Bell and husband Dax Shepard are expecting their second child. "The whole family is beyond excited," the rep tells People magazine. Bell and Shepard are already parents to 1-year-old daughter Lincoln Bell. They were married in 2013. She's pictured here attending a SoulCycle event this past weekend, but wasn't showing any sign of a baby bump yet. Or maybe it's just because black is truly slimming?!

LASSE E. KRISTIANSEN

THE WORD

Ned Ehrbar takes on the world of gossip.

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Remembering Jackson

Michael Jackson died five years ago today. As we think back upon the legacy of the King of Pop (music = awesome; personal life = off the wall), let's remember him from a photo taken 30 years ago, rather than the last images of his life. This pic was snapped in July of 1984 in a hotel room during the 1984 Democratic National Convention. Jesse Jackson (no relation, BTW) was a hopeful for the Democratic presidential nomination, though he lost to Walter Mondale, who then lost the presidency to Ronald Reagan, who died 10 years ago this month. Is there a conspiracy theory to be made of all these connections? Probably not, but just check out how cool MJ looked before we knew how weird he was.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Talking Points

Miley's little sister has a summer job

Well, it's certainly a different summer employment experience than working the fries at Burger King. Miley Cyrus has a job for her 14-year-old sister, Noah Cyrus, right, that some critics might find a tad inappropriate for the young teen. Miley tells Australia's 2Day FM radio station that Noah works as her "p—y police" to prevent the singer's privates from becoming exposed during her vigorous dance routines in skimpy costumes. "She makes sure that, you know, everything is staying intact," Miley explains.

Don't do a selfie with Leo

A note to fans of Leonardo DiCaprio: The "Wolf of Wall Street" star is happy to acknowledge you, should you meet each other, but he doesn't necessarily want there to be a record of the occasion. According to the New York Post, DiCaprio was partying with A Tribe Called Quest rapper Q-Tip in NYC's Meatpacking District recently when a blonde fan celebrating her birthday "fell into their area" and introduced herself. DiCaprio "said, 'Happy birthday' to the girl," according to a source, but when she asked to have her picture taken with him, "he responded, 'Sorry, not tonight.'"

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Another gallery, another Picasso

Exhibit. See portraits of the world's greatest modern painters at work.

Olivier Widmaier Picasso is famed artist Pablo Picasso's grandson. MARION CURTIS

Olivier Widmaier Picasso — the grandson of "that" Picasso — takes on the family legacy with "Revealed," a photo exhibit he curated that's in the Sofitel Hotel lobby in Midtown through July 31. "Revealed" showcases 30 photos that highlight some of the world's greatest modern artists at work, including Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, Salvador Dali and Fernando Botero. We caught up with Picasso to hear more about the exhibit, which will ultimately tour five cities in the U.S. and Canada.

What do you want people to take away from this?
You can see how the artists are different — some are very shy, like, "OK, take the picture and leave." ... It was really interesting to show differences between artists, photographers and studios.

What would people be most surprised to learn about your grandfather?
He was a man who listened a lot to people — from the most unknown to people to the most famous.

What's a common misconception?
I think people used to see Picasso as an old man doing surrealistic artwork, so they think everything was based on no work. It was the result of a long achievement.

Have you inherited the artistic gene?
I was not really good in drawing. I'm influenced by artistic surroundings using the talent of other people — television, music. We have a documentary called "Picasso, The Legacy." It will be out in September.

Where do you find artistic inspiration in New York?
I always have to see what the Met is offering. I was very interested by the exhibition about American designer Charles James in the '40s and '50s. At the MoMA, there's an incredible exhibition of the most recent artwork by Jasper Johns. Go and see.

When you visit museums, do you go anonymously?
It's always funny, because I know most of the presidents of museums — but sometimes it's normal for me to pay. I remember being at the Guggenheim. I gave my credit card to pay and the girl said, "Oh, Picasso as [in the] painter?" I said, "Yes, but it's not my fault." And she said, "You should have free access for life!" I said, "No, thank you, but I think it's better if I pay my respects."

VICKI SALEMI
@metronewyork
letters@metro.us

Playing favorites

Which photo do you admire most?

I like the Jeff Koons one at the entrance. He's a man of today, so he has a team, which is not forbidden. That was the same in the Vatican and the French castles, but he's making art affordable with icons of today. Today it's Popeye.

Koons gets cheeky in his portrait. / MARION CURTIS

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Season 2

Expect changes from Daniel

If Daniel seemed a bit passive in the first season, look for that to change. In the second season, he'll be a little more proactive about exploring his new freedom.

"It's much more about him wanting to experience life, almost in the way an adolescent might — to feel it, and taste it and rush off with a new discovery, very unaware of the consequences those actions will have," says Young.

Catch up with the slow-burning first season on Netflix. New episodes air Thursdays at 9 p.m. on SundanceTV.

LISA WEIDENFELD
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lisa.weidenfeld@metro.us

It's always the quiet ones

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Interview. Aden Young of "Rectify" discusses playing TV's least talkative main character.

You might not be alone if you haven't watched the first season of "Rectify." The drama aired only six episodes in 2013, and it's on a premium cable channel. But positive word of mouth is spreading about the show, which just began its second season.

"Rectify" revolves around a single event. The main character, Daniel, was convicted of a rape and murder as a teenager. Some 20 years later, he's released from prison on a technicality. But questions remain. How can he adjust to life after 20 years on death row? Did he really commit the crime? The show is notable for its steadfast refusal to pass judgment on these and other questions. It's all held together by the intense performance at the heart of the show.

Aden Young inhabits Daniel with a stillness almost unique on television. Long moments on the show pass without Daniel speaking. An early scene saw him pull a pillow apart to joyfully watch the feathers float down on him like snow. If this description makes the show seem dull, it isn't. It's measured and gorgeous, but not boring.

Aden Young has quite a bit more to say than his soft-spoken character. / GETTY IMAGES

"It's a hard show to define because it fits outside of the boundaries of so much of what we're used to, structurally, on television," says Young. He's not exaggerating. The first season took place over Daniel's first days out of prison.

Young says the premise itself has allowed for more interesting storytelling. He describes Daniel as a man coming back to life, which explains why Daniel reacts so slowly to the world around him. It's a difficult performance to calibrate, and Young jokes that "a great deal of Valium" is needed to bring himself to the pace at which Daniel experiences the world.

That said, he calls Daniel a "gift for an actor" because of how much he listens. "If you do that, you find that those spaces where very little is happening are really filled up with a great deal of introspection and thought."

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The Weekly Yelp. W. Eighth Street

West Eighth Street is in the midst of a resurgence. It wasn't all that long ago that this avenue-long stretch of the Village was really only good for scoring a cheap pair of leather boots and a quick eight ball. But almost overnight, the new-look West Eighth is chock full of culinary delights that'll give any micro-hood a run for its money. Do yourself a favor and get cozy with the hottest new addresses in Manhattan.

Arts and Crafts brings everybody out to West Eighth Street. / YELP

Analogue

19 West Eighth St. Everything shifts the guest back in time to a non-digital era. Music that required actual instruments and dexterity, spies that were sexy Dutch courtesans and drinks that require a commitment to slowly savor and linger in a more civilized world. **TOM K.**

Amelie

22 West Eighth St. The escargot. The damn escargot. There isn't a day that goes by when I don't think of them. They are literally the best French thing I've ever had. **NIYATA D.**

Arts and Crafts Beer Parlor

26 West Eighth St. What a fantastic edition to the neighborhood! This quaint, artsy beer joint is the perfect place to catch up with old friends while getting acquainted to new delicious craft beers. **SUSAN Z**

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- I have cramps in my legs which always happen when I walk the same distance.
- My ankles are swollen most of the time.
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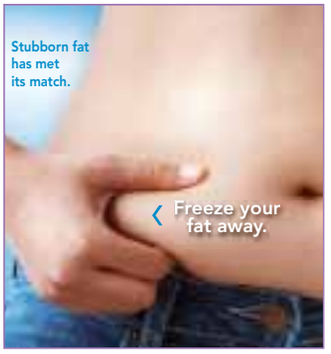

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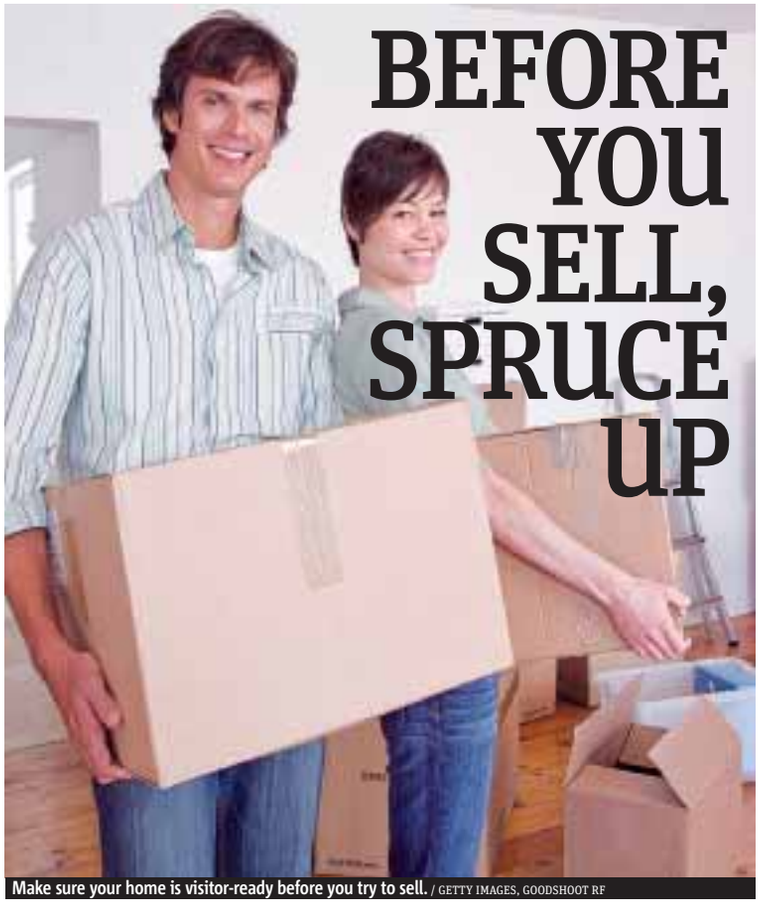

Make sure your home is visitor-ready before you try to sell. / GETTY IMAGES, GOODSHOOT RF

Selling points. Summer is the most popular time to pack up and move out. Here are easy, affordable tips to make your home look its best.

Chef-worthy appliances, a tricked-out master bathroom, ocean-front views: There are plenty of ways to ensure that your for-sale home stands out on the saturated summer market. But if you had a Malibu beach pad stuffed with money, you wouldn't be moving, would you?

We checked in with Jennifer Adams – Better Homes and Gardens' real estate interior design expert – for some tips on sprucing up and selling fast.

First things first

Dust off the mower and give those wilting petunias some love — curb appeal matters. "Oftentimes, a buyer will make a judgment on a home the moment he or she pulls up," says Adams. "Front-yard landscaping, door improvements, replacing tired house numbers, removing dead plants or empty pots: These all make a big difference."

Stay neutral

Your family may tolerate the purple kitchen, but buyers aren't as forgiving of quirk. "Light walls are trending right now, so opt for a white with a hint of a gray or beige undertone — no dark walls or random colors," says Adams. "You want your home to be able to embrace anyone's existing decor or color palette, and there is no way to guess what they might like, so stay neutral on walls and hard surfaces."

The little things

Cleaning for an open house is like cleaning for a dinner date: We're all slobs behind closed doors, but now's not the time to be honest. Clean toilets and close the seats, empty out the fridge and replace the week-old leftovers with bottled water and fresh veggies (buyers take a look every time, says Adams), eliminate the coffee table clutter and stash smelly dog toys elsewhere.

Then, let there be light. "Turn on absolutely every single light and lamp in the home and open up every blind," says Adams. "Dark homes do not sell fast."

School vacation

Tis the season

Around 50 percent of homes are sold during the summer, according to the National Association of Realtors. Families try to coordinate a move with a break at school, and no one wants to drag boxes through the snow.

Assess

Think before you invest

Before you start knocking down walls, get a professional assessment of how much a costly renovation will influence your home's value. "The only major investments that I ever suggest are the kitchen and master bathroom, but only if it is absolutely necessary," says Adams. "This will usually help your home sell faster; however, most remodeling projects will not get you a higher sales price to compensate for the investment."

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Apartment sale prices go sky higher in NYC

Realty. A limited market drives Manhattan prices up 31 percent.

We suggest inheriting property or perhaps winning the lottery.
GETTY IMAGES

Evidently, the sky's the limit when it comes to Manhattan home prices. The average sales price for a Manhattan apartment jumped by a shocking 31 percent year over year, according to a report from appraisal firm Miller Samuel on behalf of brokerage Douglas Elliman. The average price per square foot increased by nearly 24 percent to $1,363 in the first quarter of 2014 compared with 2013.

Rising prices can be attributed to the ongoing inventory crisis, which has seen fewer than 5,000 apartments on the market at any given time. Also contributing is the upward pressure on new development pricing, the result of an overheated market for land. Competition has sent land prices above $800 per square foot in some instances, leading developers to aim high on pricing to maintain profitability.

The average price of high-end homes is skewing up. A large number of sales closings at luxury building One57 hit public records last quarter, pushing average price statistics up.

The average price in the first quarter of the year for a luxury apartment was $2,706 per square foot, a 40 percent increase year over year. To be in the top 10 percent, an apartment must close for at least $3.7 million in the first quarter, up from $2.9 million in the same quarter of 2013.

"Because of the increased cost of land, developers are only bringing units to the market on the super-high end," says Daniel Hedaya, president of Platinum Properties. "The $1 million-to-$5 million range is where the depletion of inventory is the worst. I was looking myself to buy a two-bedroom on the Upper East Side. I tried getting three apartments. I lost out on every one because it went above the asking price for all cash."

Still, experts caution the numbers might be somewhat deceptive. That's because the first quarter of 2013 was particularly weak, coming directly after a frantic fourth quarter, which saw a rush of closings ahead of an expected rise in capital gains taxes.

Median prices are also up across the board. The median price for one-bedroom condos rose around 13 percent from a year earlier, while the median price for a four-bedroom jumped by 20 percent to $5.4 million. The average sales price for a co-op was up 42 percent year over year, to nearly $1.5 million.

Meanwhile, the inventory shortage shows no signs of abating.

While a rise in permit applications for new buildings may signal a jump in the number of apartments coming up for sale, they won't hit the market for some time.

"A permit filing means that you're not going to see that project be marketable for at least a year or two, and then closing in two or two-and-a-half years," says Miller Samuel CEO Jonathan Miller.

"So, that's really a commentary on what we're going to see in the market in 2016," he adds.

KATHERINE CLARKE

By the numbers

$800

The land price per square foot in some valued neighborhoods

Luxury Listings NYC

LLNYC focuses on high-end apartment and townhouse listings in Manhattan

Is the sale of the co-op at 61-63 Crosby St. a sign of things to come? / PROPERTYSHARK

Co-op owners are actually co-operating

Housing. In an unusual move, the owners of a co-op are working together to sell the whole building.

The owners of a 19th-century, four-story cooperative residential and retail building in Soho have banded together to offer their property for sale. Brokers familiar with the property estimated it could sell for $50 million.

The co-op owners of 61-63 Crosby St., a 20,608-square-foot building between Spring and Broome streets with about 6,500 square feet of additional development rights, made the unusual decision to sell the entire building, which recently hit the market. It is atypical, insiders said, because it is difficult for co-op members to unite behind a decision to sell their home.

The offering is further evidence that the demand from buyers offering huge sums of money for retail, commercial and residential space in Soho is pushing even difficult sales forward.

The stone-fronted, Italianate and neo-Greco loft building, completed in 1876, is in the city's SoHo-Cast Iron Historic District Extension, which was designated in 2010. The building, in addition, was home to the city's oldest women's artists collective, A.I.R. Gallery, from 1971 to 1994. In 1981, it was converted to a co-op. It now has one retail unit on a portion of the ground floor, and also includes seven loft apartments and artists' studios.

While rare, this is not the only example of a co-op board seeking to sell its building, and broker Robert Knakal, chairman of Massey Knakal Realty Services, is seeing more of it.

"Land has appreciated so much in value that the owners of the individual units can get two or three times what the apartment is worth," Knakal says.

Carson Street Clothiers inked a five-year lease for 63 Crosby's retail space in late 2012 with one five-year extension. It is paying about $160 per square foot for the 2,000-square-foot storefront. The lease has a six-month termination provision, so a new owner could recapture the space to release or occupy itself, sources said.

Lisa Rosenthal, a broker with Lansco who was not involved in this listing, says retail rents on the block are between $150 and $250 per square foot. Yet Crosby is growing as a retail destination.

"With the rest of the side streets in Soho filling in with great fashion tenants, Crosby is now perceived as an affordable, cool alternative," Rosenthal says. **ADAM PINCUS**

By the numbers

$50M

The price brokers are estimating the property will sell for

$160

The price per square foot of the retail space in the building

Quoted

"With the rest of the side streets in Soho filling in with great fashion tenants, Crosby is now perceived as an affordable, cool alternative."

Lisa Rosenthal, a broker with Lansco

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5 Pieces to update your summer wardrobe

With this year's glacial winter far behind, and months of summer ahead, it's time to celebrate. And what better way to do that than with a seasonal shopping spree? Refresh your wardrobe with these timeless and trendsetting pieces. **ZAHRA AHMED**

1 Classic

A crisp white button-up is a staple that will never let you down. Keep it casual by pairing it with jeans or dress it up with a skirt. You can't go wrong when you own a top that works with any outfit.

$20, UNIQLO

Zoe Saldana wears a white button-down shirt with skinny jeans.

2 New kid on the block

It's always nice to be able to walk comfortably and look cute at the same time. A good pair of block heels lets you do that — the short, thick heel is effortlessly chic and gives enough support to keep you going throughout the day. They're a good substitute for stilettos.

THE STYLISH ALEXA CHUNG ROCKS A PAIR OF BLOCK HEELS.

$50, ZARA

3 Flower power

Nothing says summer like beautiful prints with blooming flowers.

$45, MODCLOTH.COM

KATIE HOLMES PAIRS HER BOLD PRINT SKIRT WITH A BRIGHT SOLID T-SHIRT.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

$23, SHOPPRIMADONNA.COM

4 To cap it off

What's summer without a good hat that gives you a little shade everywhere you go? A straw fedora is the perfect accessory to complete any summer look.

A straw hat completes Miranda Kerr's casual-chic look.

5 Flashback

Hemlines range from short to long in the summer, but 1940s-era midi skirts and dresses provide the perfect middle ground. Mimic the era's grace and elegance with an A-line midi skirt that starts at the waist and cuts off around mid-calf — a silhouette that flatters every woman.

$76, TOPSHOP

KELLY OSBOURNE ROCKS A MIDI SKIRT IN THIS ENSEMBLE, REMINISCENT OF OLD HOLLYWOOD GLAMOUR.

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GOOGLE IS ONE OF THREE TECH MAJORS LOOKING TO AID DIABETES SUFFERERS. GETTY IMAGES

Major tech companies to better help diabetics

For decades, medical technology firms have searched for ways to let diabetics check blood sugar easily, with scant success. Now, the world's largest mobile technology firms are getting in on the act.

Apple, Samsung and Google are searching for applications that could turn nascent wearable technology such as smartwatches and bracelets from curiosities into must-have items. With these advances, sufferers can monitor blood sugar and more.

The first round of technology may be limited, but eventually the companies could compete in a global blood-sugar tracking market worth over $12 billion by 2017, according to research firm GlobalData.

Diabetes afflicts 29 million Americans and costs the economy some $245 billion in 2012, a 41 percent rise in five years. Many diabetics prick their fingers as much as 10 times daily in order to check levels of a type of sugar called glucose. REUTERS

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"Broken Age" is a visual feast with puzzles that could be just a bit harder. / DOUBLE FINE GAMES

GAMING ALONE OR WITH OTHERS

Apple's iPad has a rich and giant touchscreen, which in addition to enabling hours of time-wasting via Tinder, makes it great for gaming. As such, developers have consistently pumped out title after title for your little constant companion. Here are a couple more.

'Broken Age'

Maker: Double Fine Games
Cost: $9.99

"Broken Age" is "the" Kickstarter success story for gaming. It managed to raise $3.5 million on the crowdfunding site without breaking a sweat, due to the name recognition of lead designer Tim Schafer. Schafer is one of the patron saints of adventure gaming, having had a hand in "Monkey Island," "Grim Fandango," "Day of the Tentacle" and many other classics.

So how does "Broken Age" measure up? Did the Internet do well to invest so much in it? In a word, yes. It isn't too far removed from the adventure classics of yesteryear, in that it moves slowly and is more interested in puzzles and story than anything else. Thankfully, both of these aspects shine, although the puzzles could be a bit more difficult. The iPad's touchscreen seems to be made for this game, making it the definitive version in my eyes.

'Mucho Party'

Maker: GlobZ
Cost: $3.99

Nintendo has cornered the market on party games, but that doesn't mean that a few don't pop up on other platforms. Enter "Mucho Party," an acid-dipped mini-game collection that would feel right at home with a Wario logo stamped over it.

The two-player game is meant to be played with the iPad on a table so both players can crowd around. There are all kinds of rapid-fire challenges (30 in all) that await players. These include hitting nails through boards, tap dancing and, uh, playing Twister with your fingers. It's super fun, especially in short bursts. Don't spill beer on your iPad, though.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author.

SIDESCROLLER
LAWRENCE BONK
lawrence.bonk@metro.us

Marijuana and tobacco are the most common addictive substances used by teens at Phoenix House New England. / THINKSTOCK

Addiction. What's in the medicine cabinet is a problem for teens

A recent study of heroin use shows that it's on the rise among young people. But a dealer might not be where teens are getting their first fix.

"A lot of them are going over to a friend's house after school, and they're going straight to the medicine cabinet; it's like a candy store for them," says Neil Gaer, director of clinical affairs at Phoenix House New England. "That's how they become addicted, especially if they're getting opiate-based narcotics."

Marijuana is still the drug of choice for slightly more than half of the young patients at Gaer's chapter of Phoenix House, a national nonprofit network of substance-abuse treatment centers. But he has been seeing teens addicted to Oxycodone, Vicodin and other opiate-based drugs. From there, their next fix is a matter of economics.

"They become addicted to it, but it's harder to come by, and heroin is so much cheaper on the streets," he says.

As busy as families are, opportunity is plentiful. Everyone may leave the house at the same time in the morning, but schools let out in the early afternoon, while parents may not get home until 5 or 6 p.m. That means that "there's a lot of time for mischief," Gaer says. And with teens commonly moody and sullen, people who might notice warning signs often don't suspect it's addiction.

Even "good kids" might turn to stimulants to stay ahead in school. "A lot of times, kids feel that they're invincible — 'I can use this, and it isn't going to affect me' — and they don't think about the consequences to themselves or the harm they're causing others."

The residential program is a last resort, if outpatient treatment and other "wraparound services" aren't enough.

Addiction in younger people is an issue that the medical community is confronting. Pediatricians are asking basic questions to screen teenagers for problems. And the Mental Health Parity Act, part of the Affordable Care Act, mandates insurance coverage for substance abuse.

"Now more than ever, there are so many more options for people," Gaer says. **EVA KIS**

Stats

These are the addiction issues that young patients at Phoenix House New England face:

- 52% marijuana
- 26% alcohol
- 15% opioids/heroin
- 55% are also smokers

Warning signs

What should parents be watching out for? Everyone has bad days, but Gaer says that if these problems persist for more than two days in a row, there might be a larger issue.

- Irritability
- Keeping a different schedule
- Shifting sleep patterns
- Change in appetite

Keeping summer fun and healthy

Supplement grilled foods with fresh fruits and veggies. DIGITAL VISION

Obesity. Give kids smarter food options they'll still enjoy at your next cookout.

Barbecues, picnics and vacations are the stuff of summer fun. But the foods commonly found at such gatherings can mean more calories and unhealthy ingredients in a child's diet.

"There are a lot of opportunities to eat junk food during the summer," says Dr. Lonna Gordon, the adolescent medicine fellow at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. "But things like barbecues and going for ice cream have to be seen as treats and not something they eat every weekend or every day."

Gordon, who specializes in childhood and adolescent obesity, advises parents to plan the cookout or picnic menu well and prepare fruits and veggies ahead of time. "Prepare peaches, watermelon and fruit salad, and include vegetables like portobellos to grill alongside the meats."

This advice, Gordon points out, isn't just for overweight children. "An obese child doesn't necessarily become an obese adult, and the skinny child doesn't necessarily stay skinny," she says. "They're told that because they're skinny, they can eat what they want. That's not true."

Give kids a voice in their food: "Take children to the farmers market and to pick-your-own farms, and get them involved in healthy eating."

But summer wouldn't be the same without ice cream and hotdogs. Even for already overweight or obese children, Gordon advises parents not to ban outright foods that kids' siblings and friends are enjoying.

"We don't want to stigmatize [obese] children by separating them out from their friends or by denying them," she says.

"One plus is that kids have time on their side. They still have time to grow, which is why we don't put kids on diets. It really is a matter of moderation."

Three tips

Gordon has some tips to help parents keep summer eating nutritious and tasty for kids:

- **Cool treats:** "Ice cream can't be an everyday thing. There's a lot of sugar and a lot of fat in it. Vary it with fruit bars, sorbets and Italian ices to decrease the calories. At home, make fruit pops — put a piece of fruit on a stick and put in the freezer."
- **Super salads:** "Take advantage of summer produce and create healthy, tasty salads. Avoid mayonnaise and choose olive oil-based dressings."
- **Be creative:** "Make it fun, especially for young kids; they tend to eat things that look fun. Use cookie cutters for veggies and fruits. Make faces on the plate. Get your child involved. Children tend to eat things when they've helped with the prep."

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Horoscope

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. Get at least two points of view. You could lose out on an opportunity if you are too quick to accept the first opinion that comes along.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. You have great ideas, but you might find your estimates way off target. Before you do any spending, make a realistic outline for your budget.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Your ideas will not go over well with everyone. Be prepared to defend your actions and prove your methods to all opponents.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. Travel and learning experiences will go hand-in-hand today. Life-altering changes can be made if you are open to new concepts.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Get serious about your financial situation. You can make the most of your future by building a solid base. Find new ways to bring in more cash.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. Don't use past problems as an excuse for current difficulties. Face the facts and deal with whatever is holding you back.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20. You will have to protect your reputation and assets. Be wary of someone who tries to take advantage of your goodwill.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18. It's a great day to spice up your life. Spend time shopping for something that will make you feel and look good.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Problems with a personal or professional partner will escalate if left to fester. Make the first move by being honest and direct about your feelings.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. Love should highlight your day. You will receive some compelling new information that will help you make a decision.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Don't spend a lot of money on over-the-counter enhancements. A confident air will get you further ahead than what you buy.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. If you don't have a full grasp of what is going on, ask someone who does. Trying to guess your way out of it will get you nowhere. BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Sudoku: Easy and hard

2	9	7	1					
		6		8			7	
1		4		6				
5	3	1	7					
9				2				7
					3	9	5	6
				5		7		9
	2			3		1		
					2	8	4	3

		7						6
5	6			9			8	
9	4		1			2	7	
			2			7	6	
	9						4	
	3	4			9			
	7	9			1		5	8
	5			8			1	7
6						3		

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters

Kids should be off-limits to comic

Re: 'OK with the edge' (Metro, June 24) I read the interview with Whitney Cummings, and I couldn't help noticing that the article never mentioned that Cummings once called Sarah Palin's son "that retarded thing that came out of Sarah Palin's vagina." I can just imagine the uproar that would have resulted if Cummings had said something like that about a Democratic politician's child. I realize that Cummings said in the article that "Literally nothing is off-limits." However, I think that ridiculing a mentally challenged child should definitely be off-limits.
JOHN FRANCIS FOX, VIA EMAIL

No need to tan

Re: 'Fit to be fab' (Metro, June 23) Maria Menounos has done a commendable job of maintaining a healthy weight, but it looks like she's been neglecting her skin. That deep a suntan can not only lead to skin cancer and premature aging, it also looks ghoulishly unnatural. The suntan fad came from the Industrial Revolution. It was meant to show you're a member of the leisure class who's not stuck indoors in a factory all day. Shouldn't that be out of date by now?
MICHAEL MODIC, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

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Crossword

Across

1 Poured forth
7 Float like a cork
10 Plummeted
14 All you own
15 IRS time
16 Brigitte's friend
17 Heartily dislike
18 Chiang — -shek
19 "Typical Male" singer
20 Desert plant (2 wds.)
23 A Great Lake
26 Hesitant sounds
27 No longer trendy
28 PC system
29 Give it a go
30 Dovetail
31 Arith. term
32 Witness
33 Figures out
37 Clumsy person
38 Ms. Merkel
39 Bark up the wrong tree
40 Boot liner
41 Marinated
43 Wray of "King Kong"
44 Mao — -tung
45 Check for accuracy
46 RSVP word
47 Stingy
48 Oil-well capper Red —
51 Run a fever
52 Edge around
53 Hard to take in (hyph.)
56 Be an omen of
57 Son of Prince Val
58 Tropical fruit
62 Blissful spot
63 Golf ball stand
64 Did a laundry chore
65 Quit working
66 Boating pronoun
67 Ratifying body

Down

1 Toothpaste choice
2 Canteen initials
3 Depot (abbr.)
4 Round container
5 Hawke of film
6 Forest grazer
7 Donut stop
8 Aussie minerals
9 — -a-brac
10 They're loaded (2 wds.)
11 Discharges
12 "Peanuts" kid
13 Rent
21 Go over again
22 Honey source
23 Nut shells
24 Full-length
25 Mountain chain
29 Doctrine
30 Wild
32 Excellent
33 Second helping
34 Decided on
35 Twangy
36 Tableau
42 Plain as day
46 Endorser
47 Filet —
48 Traffic light color
49 Radio part
50 Pampas backdrop
51 Come to terms
52 Nab
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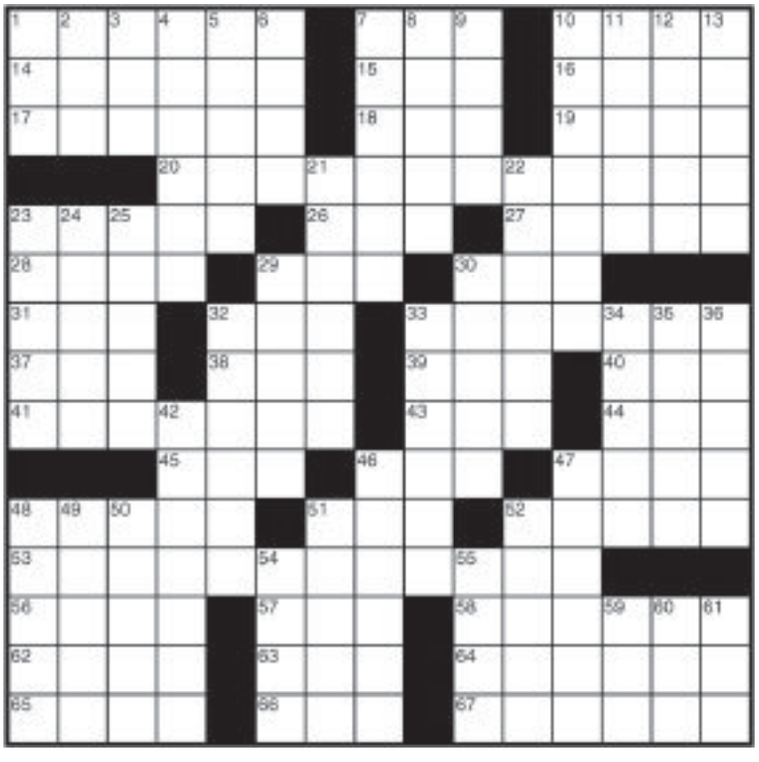
59 Santa — winds
60 After expenses
61 Lemon drink

Yesterday's answer



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Giants camp report

With Giants minicamp over, whose stock is on the rise and who struggled with training camp only a month away?

MARK OSBORNE
mark.osborne@metro.us

The Giants wrapped up an intriguing minicamp with a lot of crucial absences last week.

The foot injury to linebacker and defensive leader Jon Beason meant new faces were tasked with trying to fill that role in what could be an audition for the start of the season. Beason is out for training camp — which begins July 27 — but hopes to be ready for Week 1. That is still to be seen.

The good news was Eli Manning was a full go after ankle surgery threatened his whole offseason.

Metro breaks down who looked good and who is still a question mark as the team looks to rebound from a 7-9 season.

Johnathan Hankins came on late last season, and Tom Coughlin praised him during minicamp. / ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Stock up: Johnathan Hankins

Hankins was a big (literally) riser during the offseason. The 6-foot-2, 320-pound defensive tackle may step in immediately as starter to replace Linval Joseph, who signed with Minnesota. There was some confusion last year when Hankins was selected in the second round and didn't play until Week 5 last season. But Hankins received raves during minicamp and could line up next to Cullen Jenkins on the inside to form a nice run-stuffing tandem.

Stock up: Devon Kennard

The rookie linebacker out of USC was unquestionably the biggest benefactor from the Beason injury. The fifth-round pick went from likely special-teamer to possibly second on the depth chart in no time flat.

If veteran Jameel McClain — who was another winner from minicamp — slides over to middle linebacker to replace Beason, Kennard could fill his role on the outside.

WILSON HAS YET TO TAKE PART IN CONTACT DRILLS FOLLOWING NECK SURGERY.

Stock down: David Wilson

The news on Wilson has been disappointing all offseason. He claimed during OTAs he should be ready for minicamp after offseason neck surgery and a final checkup. He went to the doctor and was told he would not be able to take part in contact drills until training camp. It's certainly not Wilson's fault that he got injured, but the Giants were clearly planning for his unavailability by signing Jennings and drafting Andre Williams. Not only has Rashad Jennings jumped over him on the depth chart, but Wilson is falling behind learning Ben McAdoo's new offense.

Stock down: Ryan Nassib

The odd selection of Nassib in the fourth round last year continues to baffle.

Nassib wasn't much needed with Manning back on the field quickly. But what if Manning had missed all the offseason? Well, the Giants clearly don't think Nassib is ready to step in as a backup. QB coach Danny Langsdorf said he has to "keep working on executing."

Stock up: Adrien Robinson

Despite being on the roster two seasons, you can be forgiven for not knowing Robinson. But he is next in line to step up at tight end with Brandon Myers gone. Robinson has a grand total of zero career catches. But he looked good in minicamp running with the starters.

ROBINSON WAS A FOURTH-ROUND PICK IN 2012 BUT HAS YET TO CONTRIBUTE, WITH ONLY THREE GAMES PLAYED.

Stock up: Rashad Jennings

The free-agent signee looked every bit a starter in his first week as a Giant.

He played the role of a humble, team player — especially in deference to David Wilson — but it would be a shock if he didn't start in Week 1. Jennings was always a backup to Darren McFadden in Oakland, but he's ready to be starter.

3 SPORTS

18 and counting

Allen wants to return

Ray Allen is reportedly leaning toward returning for his 19th season in the NBA. But he wants to do it in tandem with LeBron James. Allen, who turns 39 in July, played with James the past two seasons in Miami, but with James opting out, that pairing might end up continuing in a different city. Allen won his second career championship in 2013 with the Heat. He averaged 9.6 points per game in the regular season.

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Uruguay takes bite out of Italy on action-packed day

World Cup. Luis Suarez's history of biting re-emerged, while Greece came up with a huge goal late to advance.

Luis Suarez, left, got himself in trouble again for biting Italian defender Giorgio Chiellini, inset. / GETTY IMAGES

Soccer superpowers Italy and England were sent packing from the World Cup on Tuesday, but it was the sport's bad boy who stole all the attention.

Luis Suarez, who has twice been suspended for biting an opponent during his club career, appears to have done it again. He will have to wait and see what FIFA decides for punishment. Meanwhile, his country of Uruguay is marching on.

Uruguay 1, Italy 0
The four-time Cup champion Italians are heading home from Brazil after a disappointing effort in a do-or-die match.

Italy only needed a draw to advance to the knockout stage, while Uruguay was in a win-or-go home contest and looked the part.

Uruguay frustrated Italian striker Mario Balotelli early on. Balotelli drew a yellow card in the 22nd minute and was substituted out at halftime to avoid a second yellow. But it was Italian Claudio Marchisio who ended up being sent off on a straight red in the 59th minute.

The soon-to-be-infamous bite from Suarez came in the box, away from the ball, just minutes before Diego Godin headed in the game-winner in the 81st minute.

By the numbers

1950

The last time both England and Italy failed to advance past the group stage was in 1950, when the World Cup was also held in Brazil. That comes with a caveat though, as England also did not make it out of the group stage in 1958 in Sweden, while Italy actually failed to qualify for that tournament.

For a full television schedule, visit Metro.us/world-cup.

Costa Rica 0, England 0
The other half of Group D was much less eventful, as the English, already eliminated, played to a draw with Costa Rica.

They had all but locked up the top spot in the group heading into the match, with the Italy-Uruguay winner needing to make up a big goal differential.

Greece 2, Ivory Coast 1
The drama in Group C also came down to the very end, though the only biting involved that of fingernails.

Ivorian legend Didier Drogba got his first start of the tournament, but it was Greece's Andreas Samaris who scored first in the 42nd minute.

Wilfried Bony scored on a nice assist from Gervinho to tie it up in the 74th minute and it appeared the Ivory Coast would be moving on due to the draw. But Greek legend Georgios Samaras scored on a penalty kick, which he also earned, in the 93rd minute to give the Greeks passage to the Round of 16.

Colombia 4, Japan 1
Colombia didn't have too much trouble as they continued their run to the top of Group C.

Juan Cuadrado scored on a penalty in the 17th minute to give the Colombians the lead. Shinji Okazaki tied it up in stoppage time before the half, but the dam broke in the second half as Jackson Martinez scored twice and World Cup sensation James Rodriguez added his third goal of the tournament.

Colombia will face Uruguay in the next round, while Greece will meet up with Costa Rica.

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Still on the sideline

Altidore ruled out for matchup with Germany

The United States will again be without their top striker on Thursday.

Head coach Jurgen Klinsmann ruled out Jozy Altidore on Tuesday for the match against Germany (noon, ESPN). Altidore suffered a strained left hamstring chasing down a pass in the first half of the team's opener against Ghana. He missed the 2-2 draw against Portugal on Sunday as well.

The United States didn't suffer much offensively without Altidore in that contest. Klinsmann went with Clint Dempsey as the sole forward and inserted Graham Zusi to play as a fifth midfielder. Zusi has performed admirably in both games so far this World Cup, including assisting on the game-winner against Ghana.

If Klinsmann does want to go with a more offensive-minded lineup, Aron Johannsson and Chris Wondolowski are the two reserve forwards on the U.S. roster. Johannsson replaced Altidore in the opener, while Wondolowski came in as a late sub for Dempsey against Portugal.

METRO

JOZY ALTIDORE WAS THE MOST PHYSICAL FORWARD ON THE AMERICAN ROSTER. GETTY IMAGES

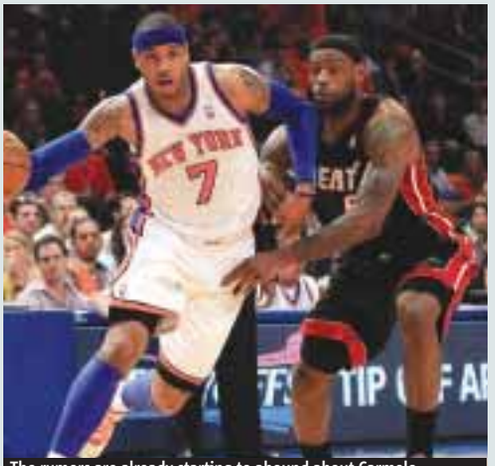
Free agent frenzy

LeBron James opts out of deal, rumors abound

The man who launched a thousand rumors opted out of his contract Tuesday.

Heat superstar LeBron James decided not to pick up his player option on the final year of his contract in Miami. And while it wasn't a total surprise, it does open up the potential for other teams to sign the biggest name in the sport.

It also sends a message to Heat president Pat Riley that the team needs to improve if James is going to return in 2014-15.



The rumors are already starting to abound about Carmelo Anthony joining up with LeBron James. / GETTY IMAGES

ESPN is already reporting several teams are exploring signing James and Carmelo Anthony, who opted out of his final year with the Knicks earlier this week. The Hawks and Cavaliers could both have the cap space to make it work after clearing room with a trade.

James of course spent the first seven years of his career in Cleveland and is a native of Akron, Ohio. Despite the acrimonious divorce between the two sides, the Cavs have a young star in Kyrie Irving. A trade to free up space for Anthony, or Timberwolves forward Kevin Love, involving the No. 1 overall pick is likely tempting.

ESPN's Ramona Shelburne reports the Lakers are also interested in signing both James and Anthony if they could trade the No. 7 overall pick and Steve Nash's expiring deal worth $9.7 million.

Fellow Big 3 members Chris Bosh and Dwyane Wade can also opt out of their deals by the end of the week. Bosh and Wade are both due a little over $20 million next season.

New York and Brooklyn fans who felt slighted in 2010 when James chose Miami, should not be excited about a potential redo. The Knicks could sign James, but not both he and Anthony, and it seems unlikely considering the supporting cast. The Nets, meanwhile, already have $88 million committed to next season, which is already $11 million over the luxury tax threshold. MARK OSBORNE

By the numbers

$32M

The Cavaliers have just $32,044,677 in salary committed to next season, though they have to decide on a $9.8 million team option on Anderson Varejao. The salary cap will be $63.2 million in 2014-15.

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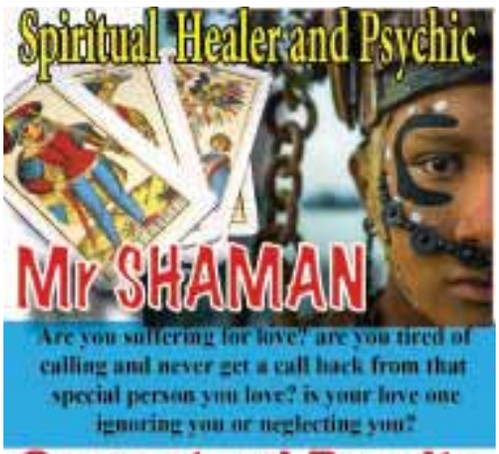
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Defendants.
Index No. 26220/2002

NOTICE OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF CLASS ACTION

TO: Present and former employees of Caddell Dry Dock & Repair Co. Inc. ("Caddell") who performed work on all publicly financed projects performed by Caddell during the period from October 1, 1996 through December 31, 2006, and from June 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008 (the "Class").

THIS NOTICE RELATES TO A PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF THIS LITIGATION AND CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR RIGHTS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that: (a) on April 23, 2014 plaintiffs in the above-captioned actions, and Caddell entered into an Settlement Agreement and Release (the "Agreement") conditionally settling this action upon certain terms and conditions; (b) pursuant to an Order of the Court (the "Order"), a hearing will be held on October 15, 2014, Room 624 at 2:00 p.m. (the "Fairness Hearing"), at the Courthouse located at the Supreme Court, Bronx County, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, New York, for the purpose of determining whether the terms of the Agreements are fair, reasonable and adequate and should be approved by the Court, along with attorney's fees, administrative costs, class administrator costs, accounting fees and disbursements that shall be awarded and reimbursed to Class Counsel. The Fairness Hearing may be adjourned by the Court from time to time without further notice.

NATURE OF ACTION

This Action arose from Defendant's alleged failure to pay the applicable prevailing rate of wages and supplemental benefits to the Class for work performed in connection with certain publicly financed contracts with the City of New York.

SUMMARY OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

The terms of the Agreement of this Class Action are set forth in detail herein and in the Settlement Agreement and Release filed with the Clerk of the Court. The settlement shall be based on the following formula during the period from October 1, 1996 through December 31, 2006: W-2 reported earning divided by $15.00 per hour and further divided by 40 hours per week to arrive at the number of settlement weeks worked. The number of settlement weeks shall be multiplied by the sum of $102.00 to arrive at the Authorized Class Claimant's allocated share of the settlement. All Authorized Class Claimants who performed covered work for Caddell during the period from June 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008, shall receive a flat rate of $200.00 per Authorized Class Claimant.

PROCEDURE FOR PARTICIPATING

If you wish to participate in this proposed settlement you must file a "Claim Form" on or before the August 8, 2014 Bar Date. To participate in this settlement you MUST include with your Claim Form one form of government-issued identification such as: (i) passport, or, (ii) resident alien or registration card, or (iii) driver's license or (iv) any government issued document containing your photograph, and a fully completed and executed W-4 form. Claim Forms must also be notarized. Defendant shall not be required to pay any settlement amount to any claimant who fails to provide a valid, proper and verifiable Social Security or Tax Identification Number ("TIN") on the W-4 form. You may obtain a Claim Form by contacting Plaintiffs' counsel Virginia & Ambinder, LLP, 111 Broadway, Suite 1403, New York, N.Y. 10006. Tele: 212.943.9080. Email: Lambinder@vandallp.com.

EXAMINATION OF PAPERS AND INQUIRY

This Notice is only a summary of the litigation and the terms of the proposed settlement and does not purport to be comprehensive. For a more detailed statement of the issues involved in this Action and the terms of the proposed settlement, you may refer to the pleadings, the Agreement of Settlement, and other papers filed in these Actions, which may be inspected at the office of the Clerk of the Court, Supreme Court of the State of New York, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, New York during regular business hours of each business day. Any questions may be directed in writing to Lloyd Ambinder, Esq., Virginia & Ambinder, LLP, 111 Broadway, New York, New York 10006, or you can e-mail Mr. Ambinder at lambinder@vandallp.com. If you should require Spanish translation, please call on Monday through Friday between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and ask for Ines Cruz, Venus Velez or Yeskenia Polanco.

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